
Malignant Germ Cell Tumors of the Ovary- Experience at Tata Memorial Hospital

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Purpose: To review the clinical characteristics of patients of malignant ovarian germ cell treated at Tata Memorial Centre and to know their outcomes.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective review of medical records of patients with malignant ovarian germ cell tumors, managed at our centre, from 1995 to 1997 was performed.

Results: A total of 75 patients with malignant ovarian germ cell tumor were treated during this period. Their median age at diagnosis was 19 years (range, 7 to 42 years). 21.3% patients were premenstrual. 77.3% patients had conservative surgery with preservation of opposite ovary and uterus. A majority of patients (68%) had received post operative combination chemotherapy while 21.3% were managed with surgery alone. Stage distribution for stage I to IV was as follows-65.3%, 6.6%, 20% and 7.6% respectively.

Dysgerminoma was the commonest histological type (41.3%) followed by yolk sac tumor (16%) and mixed germ cell tumors (14.9%). BEP was the most commonly used regimen (96.4% of patients who had received chemotherapy). 21.3% patients had recurrence with a median time to recurrence 15.4 months (range, 5.7 to 68.5 months). The 5-year actuarial survival rate was 90%.

Conclusion: Most of the patients with malignant germ cell tumor of the ovary can be managed with conservative surgery. Majority of them need post operative platinum based chemotherapy. At present BEP seems to be the most effective chemotherapy regimen. Overall survival rates are quite high and most of the recurrences can be effectively salvaged.

Updated results on malignant ovarian germ cell tumor cases treated at Tata Memorial Centre between 1995 and 1999 will be presented in the meeting.